

Application No. 10/528,678

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated May 8, 2008 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-10, 12 and 14-20 are pending. Claims 11 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the amendment and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 4-18 stand objected to because of informalities. In response, claims 2, 5 and 16-18 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request removal of this objection.

The abstract of the disclosure stands objected to because of informalities. In response, applicants submit a new abstract in accordance with MPEP 608.01(b). Accordingly, applicants respectfully request removal of this objection.

In the Office Action, claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Wang. (U.S. Patent 6038333) in view of Wang2 (U.S. Patent No. 6035055) and in further view of Sheridan (U.S. Patent No. 5760917). It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 10 and 15 are patentable over Wang, Wang2 and Sheridan for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of "*A user device comprising an image acquisition device... a search engine for matching the captured image of the target person to a candidate person image data item and retrieving*

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the personal data relating thereto, *wherein the search is limited to candidate person image data items that relate to further user devices that are in the same geographical area as the user device...*

Applicants can find nothing in Wang, Wang2 and Sheridan that teaches the above limitations. Amended independent claims 10, 14 and 15 recite similar limitations.

Having shown that in Wang, Wang2 and Sheridan, alone or in combination, fail to disclose each and every element claimed, applicant submits that the reason for the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 10, 14 and 15 has been overcome and can no longer be sustained. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 1, 10, 14 and 15.

In the Office Action, claims 16-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Wang in view of Sheridan and in further view of Willins (U.S. Patent No. 6990587).

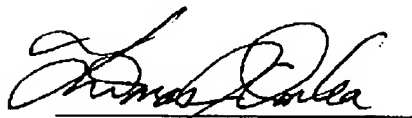
With regard to the dependent claims 2-9, 12 and 16-20 these claims ultimately depend from one of the independent claims, which have been shown to be allowable in view of the cited references. Accordingly, claims 2-9, 12 and 16-20 are also allowable by virtue of their dependence from an allowable base claim.

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For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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